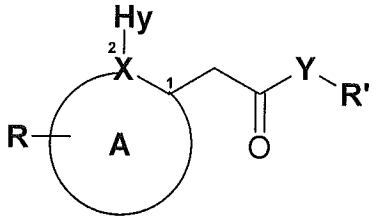
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method of treatment of diseases that involve IL-8 induced human PMN chemotaxis~~Use~~ comprising administering ~~of 2-arylacetic acid compounds and derivatives~~a compound of formula (I):



(I)

~~and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof~~or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

wherein

A is selected from benzene, naphthalene, pyridine, pyrimidine, pyrrole, imidazole, furane, thiophene, indole and 7-aza-indole~~includes the X atom and represents a 5-6 membered aromatic or heteroaromatic ring optionally including a heteroatom, or a further heteroatom when X is N, selected from N (nitrogen), O (oxygen), S (sulfur); the 5-6 membered aromatic or heteroaromatic ring is optionally fused with a second ring to give bicyclic aromatic or heteroaromatic structures;~~

labels 1 and 2 mark the relevant positions on the A ring;

the X atom is selected from N (nitrogen) and C (carbon);

R is a substituting group on the A ring selected from:

- a group in the 3 (meta) position selected from a linear or branched C_1-C_5 alkyl, ~~C_2~~-C_2-C_5-alkenyl or C_2-C_5-alkynyl group, substituted or not-substituted phenyl, linear or branched C_1-C_5 hydroxyalkyl, C_2-C_5-acyl, substituted or not-substituted benzoyl;
- a group in the 4 (para) position selected from C_1-C_5 alkyl, C_2-C_5-alkenyl or C_2-C_5-alkynyl group, C_3-C_6-cycloalkyl, C_1-C_5-acyloxy, substituted or not-substituted benzoyloxy, C_1-C_5-acylamino, substituted or not-substituted benzoylamino, C_1-C_5-sulfonyloxy, substituted or not-substituted benzenesulfonyloxy, C_1-C_5-alkanesulfonylamino, substituted or not-substituted benzenesulfonylamino, C_1-C_5-alkanesulfonylmethyl, substituted or not-substituted benzenesulfonylmethyl, 2-furyl; 3-tetrahydrofuryl; 2 thiophenyl; 2-tetrahydrothiophenyl groups or a C_1-C_8-alkanoyl, cycloalkanoyl or arylalkanoyl-C_1-C_5-alkylamino group;

Hy is a small hydrophobic group with a steric hindrance factor ν ranging between 0.5 and 0.9 Å (where ν is the Charton steric constant for substituents)~~, including methyl, ethyl, chlorine, bromine, methoxy, trifluoromethyl~~;

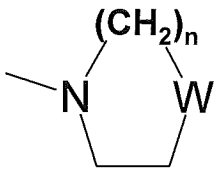
the Y group is selected from O (oxygen) and NH;

when Y is O (oxygen), R' is H (hydrogen);

when Y is NH, R' is selected from

- H, C_1-C_5-alkyl, C_1-C_5-cycloalkyl, C_1-C_5-alkenyl;
- an amino acid residue consisting of straight or branched C_1-C_6-alkyl, C_1-C_6-cycloalkyl, C_1-C_6-alkenyl, phenylalkyl substituted with one or more carboxy (COOH) groups;

- an amino acid residue consisting of straight or branched C_1-C_6-alkyl, C_1-C_6-cycloalkyl, C_1-C_6-alkenyl, phenylalkyl, bearing along the chain a heteroatom selected from oxygen and sulfur and with one or more carboxy (COOH) groups;
- a residue of formula $-CH_2-CH_2-Z-(CH_2-CH_2O)nR''$ wherein R'' is H or C_1-C_5-alkyl, n is an integer from 0 to 2 and Z is oxygen or sulfur;
- a residue of formula $-(CH_2)n-NRaRb$ wherein n is an integer from 0 to 5 and each Ra and Rb, which may be the same or different, are C_1-C_6-alkyl, C_1-C_6-alkenyl or, alternatively, Ra and Rb, together with the nitrogen atom to which they are bound, form a heterocycle from 3 to 7 members of formula (II)



(II)

- wherein W represents a single bond, CH_2, O, S or N-Rc, wherein Rc is H, C_1-C_6-alkyl or C_1-C_6-alkylphenyl;
- a residue OR'' wherein R'' is H, methyl, carboxymethyl;
- a residue of formula SO_2Rd wherein Rd is C_1-C_6-alkyl, C_1-C_6-cycloalkyl, C_1-C_6-alkenyl~~;~~

~~in the preparation of a medicament for the treatment of diseases that involve IL-8 induced human PMNs chemotaxis, such as psoriasis, ulcerative colitis, melanoma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), bullous pemphigoid, rheumatoid arthritis, idiopathic~~

~~fibrosis, glomerulonephritis and in the prevention and treatment of damages caused by ischemia and reperfusion~~.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) ~~Use~~ The method according to claim 1, wherein YR' is OH.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~Use~~ The method according to claim 1, wherein Y is NH and R' is:

- the amino acid residue of glycine, β-alanine, γ-aminobutyric acid or residues of an L-α-amino acid selected in the group of L-alanine, valine, leucine, isoleucine, nor-leucine, phenylalanine, S-methylcysteine, methionine;
- a residue of formula $-CH_2-CH_2-O-(CH_2-CH_2O)R''$ wherein R'' is H or C_1-C_5-alkyl;
- a residue of formula –(CH2)n-NRaRb wherein n is an integer from 2 to three, more preferably 3, and the group NRaRb is N,N-dimethylamine, N,N-diethylamine, 1-piperidyl, 4-morpholyl, 1-pyrrolidyl, 1-piperazinyl, 1-(4-methyl)piperazinyl;
- a residue OR'' wherein R'' is H, methyl;
- a residue of formula SO_2Rd wherein Rd is methyl, ethyl or isopropyl.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~Use~~ The method according to any of claims 1, ~~to~~ 3, or 4, wherein R is 3'-benzoyl, 3'-(4-chloro-benzoyl), 3'- (4-methyl-benzoyl), 3'-acetyl, 3'-propionyl, 3'-isobutanoyl, 3'-ethyl, 3'-isopropyl, 4'-isobutyl, 4'-trifluoromethanesulphonyloxy, 4'-benzenesulphonyloxy, 4'-trifluoromethanesulphonylamino, 4'-benzenesulphonylamino, 4'-

benzenesulphonylmethyl, 4'-acetyloxy, 4'-propionyloxy, 4'-benzoyloxy, 4'acetylamino, 4'propionylamino, 4'-benzoylamino.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~Use~~ The method according to claim 1, wherein Hy is selected from methyl, ethyl, chlorine, bromine, methoxy~~,~~ and trifluoromethyl.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~Use~~ The method according to claim 1, wherein ~~2-arylacetic acid compounds and derivatives of formula (I) are~~the compound is selected from:

(3-benzoyl-2-methylphenyl)acetic acid,

(2-chloro-3-propionylphenyl)acetic acid,

(3-isopropyl-2-methylphenyl)acetic acid,

(4-isobutyl-2-methylphenyl)acetic acid,

{2-methyl-4-[(phenylsulphonyl)amino]phenyl}acetic acid,

{2-methyl-4-[(trifluoromethanesulphonyl)amino]phenyl}acetic acid,

{2-chloro-4-[(trifluoromethanesulphonyl)oxy]phenyl}acetic acid,

(5-acetyl-1-methyl-1H-pyrrol-2-yl)acetic acid,

[1-methyl-5-(4-methylbenzoyl)-1H-pyrrol-2-yl]acetic acid,

(5-benzoyl-1-methyl-1H-pyrrol-2-yl)acetic acid,

[1-methyl-5-(4-chlorobenzoyl)-1H-pyrrol-2-yl]acetic acid,

(5-isobutyryl-1-methyl-1H-pyrrol-2-yl)acetic acid,

(1-benzoyl-2-methyl-1H-pyrrol-3-yl)acetic acid,

(1-benzoyl-2-chloro-1H-pyrrol-3-yl)acetic acid,

(1-benzoyl-2-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)acetic acid,

[1-(4-chlorobenzoyl)-2-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl]acetic acid,

(1-isopropyl-2-methyl-1H-pyrrole[2,3-b]pyridin-3-yl)acetic acid,

(3-benzoyl-2-methoxyphenyl)acetic acid,

(5-acetyl-1-methyl-1H-pyrrol-2-yl)acetamide,

(5-acetyl-1-methyl-1H-pyrrol-2-yl)-N-carboxymethylacetamide,

(S)(5-acetyl-1-methyl-1H-pyrrol-2-yl)-N-(2-carboxyethyl)acetamide,

(5-acetyl-1-methyl-1H-pyrrol-2-yl)-N-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)acetamide,

(S)(5-acetyl-1-methyl-1H-pyrrol-2-yl)-N-(3-methoxy-2-carboxypropyl)acetamide,

(4-isobutyl-2-methylphenyl)acetamide,

(2-chloro-3-propionylphenyl))-N-(3-dimethylaminoethyl)acetamide,

(3-isopropyl-2-methylphenyl)-N-[3-(1-piperidinyl)propyl]acetamide,

(3-benzoyl-2-methylphenyl)acetamide,

(1-benzoyl-2-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)acetamide,

(1-benzoyl-2-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-N-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)acetamide,

[1-(4-chlorobenzoyl)-2-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl]acetamide,

[1-(4-chlorobenzoyl)-5-methoxy-2-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl]acetamide,

{2-chloro-4-[(trifluoromethanesulphonyl)oxy]phenyl}-N-(2-hydroxyethoxyethyl)acetamide,

(1-benzoyl-2-methyl-1H-pyrrol-3-yl)-N-(2-methoxyethyl)acetamide,

(1-benzoyl-2-chloro-1H-pyrrol-3-yl)-N-[3-(1-morpholino)propyl]acetamide,

(5-isobutyryl-1-methyl-1H-pyrrol-2-yl)acetamide,

(5-benzoyl-1-methyl-1H-pyrrol-2-yl)-N-(2-carboxymethyl)acetamide,

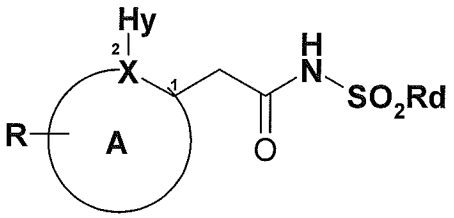
[1-methyl-5-(4-chlorobenzoyl)-1H-pyrrol-2-yl]-N-(2-hydroxyethoxyethyl)acetamide,

[1-methyl-5-(4-chlorobenzoyl)-1H-pyrrol-2-yl]acetamide,

{2-methyl-4-[(phenylsulphonyl)amino]phenyl}-N-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)acetamide, and

(3-benzoyl-2-methoxyphenyl)acetamide.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~2-Arylacetic acid compounds~~ A compound ~~and derivatives~~ of formula (Ia)



(Ia)

~~and~~ or a pharmaceutically acceptable ~~salts~~salt thereof,

wherein :

A is selected from benzene, naphthalene, pyridine, pyrimidine, pyrrole, imidazole, furane, thiophene, indole and 7-aza-indole~~includes the X atom and represents a 5-6 membered aromatic or heteroaromatic ring optionally including a heteroatom, or a further heteroatom when X is N, selected from N (nitrogen), O (oxygen), S (sulfur); the 5-6 membered aromatic or heteroaromatic ring is optionally fused with a second ring to give bicyclic aromatic or heteroaromatic structures;~~

labels 1 and 2 mark the relevant positions on the A ring;

the X atom is selected from N (nitrogen) and C (carbon);

R is a substituting group on the A ring selected from :

- a group in the 3 (meta) position selected from a linear or branched C_1-C_5 alkyl, C_2-C_5-alkenyl or C_2-C_5-alkynyl group, substituted or not-substituted phenyl, linear or branched C_1-C_5 hydroxyalkyl, C_2-C_5-acyl, substituted or not-substituted benzoyl;
- a group in the 4 (para) position selected from C_1-C_5 alkyl, C_2-C_5-alkenyl or C_2-C_5-alkynyl group, C_3-C_6-cycloalkyl, C_1-C_5-acyloxy, substituted or not-substituted benzoyloxy, C_1-C_5-acylamino, substituted or not-substituted benzoylamino, C_1-C_5-sulfonyloxy, substituted or not-substituted benzenesulfonyloxy, C_1-C_5-alkanesulfonylamino, substituted or not-substituted benzenesulfonylamino, C_1-C_5-alkanesulfonylmethyl, substituted or not-substituted benzenesulfonylmethyl, 2-furyl; 3-tetrahydrofuryl; 2- thiophenyl; 2-tetrahydrothiophenyl groups or a C_1-C_8-alkanoyl, cycloalkanoyl or arylalkanoyl-C_1-C_5-alkylamino group;

Hy is a small hydrophobic group with a steric hindrance factor ν ranging between 0.5 and 0.9 Å (where ν is the Charton steric constant for substituents)~~, including methyl, ethyl, chlorine, bromine, methoxy, trifluoromethyl~~;

Rd is C_1-C_6-alkyl, C_1-C_6-cycloalkyl, C_1-C_6-alkenyl.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~Compounds~~ The compound according to claim 8, wherein

A is selected from benzene, pyridine, pyrimidine, pyrrole, imidazole, furane, thiophene~~,~~ and indole;

Rd is selected from methyl, ethyl ~~or~~and isopropyl;

Hy is selected from methyl, ethyl, chlorine, bromine, methoxy~~,~~ and trifluoromethyl.

10. (Currently Amended) A compound ~~Compounds according to claims 8 or 9,~~ selected from

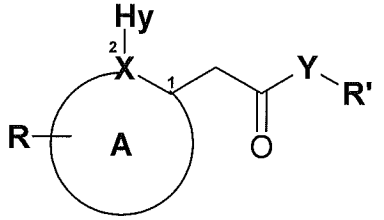
(5-acetyl-1-methyl-1H-pyrrol-2-yl)acetyl methanesulphonamide,

(4-isobutyl-2-methylphenyl)acetyl methanesulphonamide,

{2-methyl-4-[(trifluoromethanesulphonyl)amino]phenyl}acetyl methanesulphonamide, and

[1-methyl-5-(4-methylbenzoyl)-1H-pyrrol-2-yl]acetyl methanesulphonamide.

11. (Currently Amended) ~~Process~~ A process for the preparation of compounds of formula (Ia) ~~according to claim 8~~, comprising ~~the transformation of~~transforming a compound of formula (I), ~~according to claim 1,~~



(I)

wherein

A is benzene, naphthalene, pyridine, pyrimidine, pyrrole, imidazole, furane, thiophene, indole or 7-aza-indole;

labels 1 and 2 mark the relevant positions on the A ring;

the X atom is selected from N (nitrogen) and C (carbon);

R is a substituting group on the A ring selected from:

- a group in the 3 (meta) position selected from a linear or branched C_1-C_5 alkyl, C_2 C_5-alkenyl or C_2-C_5-alkynyl group, substituted or not-substituted phenyl, linear or branched C_1-C_5 hydroxyalkyl, C_2-C_5-acyl, substituted or not-substituted benzoyl;

- a group in the 4 (para) position selected from C_1-C_5 alkyl, C_2-C_5-alkenyl or C_2-C_5-alkynyl group, C_3-C_6-cycloalkyl, C_1-C_5-acyloxy, substituted or not-substituted benzoyloxy, C_1-C_5-acylamino, substituted or not-substituted benzoylamino, C_1-C_5-sulfonyloxy, substituted or not-substituted benzenesulfonyloxy, C_1-C_5-alkanesulfonylamino, substituted or not-substituted benzenesulfonylamino, C_1-C_5-alkanesulfonylmethyl, substituted or not-substituted benzenesulfonylmethyl, 2-furyl; 3-tetrahydrofuryl; 2 thiophenyl; 2-tetrahydrothiophenyl groups or a C_1-C_8-alkanoyl, cycloalkanoyl or arylalkanoyl-C_1-C_5-alkylamino group;

Hy is a small hydrophobic group with a steric hindrance factor ν ranging between 0.5 and 0.9 Å (where ν is the Charton steric constant for substituents)

~~wherein~~ YR' is OH, ~~in~~ to a reactive intermediate, ~~such as an acyl chloride or a benzotriazolyl ester,~~ and reacting the intermediate with a compound of formula NH_2SO_2Rd, wherein Rd is C_1-C_6-alkyl, C_1-C_6-cycloalkyl, or C_1-C_6-alkenyl, in the presence of a suitable base.

12. (Currently Amended) Pharmaceutical compositions comprising a compound according to claim ~~1~~ 8 in admixture with a suitable carrier thereof.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently Amended) ~~Use~~ The method according to claim 1 ~~in the preparation of a medicament~~ for the treatment of psoriasis, ulcerative colitis, melanoma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), bullous pemphigoid, rheumatoid arthritis, idiopathic fibrosis, glomerulonephritis and in the ~~prevention and~~ treatment of damages caused by reperfusion after ischemia ~~and reperfusion~~.

16. (New) The process of claim 11 where in said reactive intermediate is an acyl chloride or a benzotriazolyl ester.

17. (New) The compound of claim 8, wherein Hy is selected from methyl, ethyl, chlorine, bromine, methoxy and trifluoromethyl.